1: Dube E-5 (1951-52) 1955 AW17 Telugu AW17

311 ment, classified in government land records as belonging to this village, approximately 20·4 acres are covered by streams and small rivers, 25 acres by unmetalled roads and footpaths and 61 acres by irrigation channels. Thus apart from the 58 acres which provide the site for the village and the two hamlets attached to it, 106·4 acres are covered by these footpaths, channels and streams. The total land area of the village according to government records is 5,777 acres. Out of this 2,012 acres are uncul-
241 tivable; 162·8 acres being covered with rocks and shrubs. In all 3,765 acres are under cultivation in the village: 3,339·5 acres are classed as 'dry land', for this area is irrigated entirely by the rains; and 425·6 acres are classed as 'wet land' as extra irrigation is available. Although the dry land occupies a proportionately wider area, it is much less productive than the wet land. In 1951–52, out of the total village land revenue of Rs. 9,137 (Hyderabad currency) only Rs. 3,982/4/- were derived as revenue on dry land, the rest came from wet land. The wet land is further classified into *ābi*, *tābi* and *do fasla* land. In the *ābi* land seeds are sown in the rainy season (June to July) and harvested in mid- or late winter (November to January). This type of land occupies 131 acres and yields a revenue of Rs. 1,332 per year. In the *tābi* land sowing is done in winter (October to November) and the crops are harvested in summer (April to May). *Tābi* land covers 162·4 acres in the village and yields a revenue of Rs. 1,868/12/0 per year. Finally 63·5 acres are classed as the much prized *do fasla* or two crop land. As the very name suggests, crops are sown and harvested on this land twice every year. Notwithstanding its small area this land yields a revenue of Rs. 1,208/12/0. All this wet land is irrigated by channels from the Shamirpet tank. Mention may also be made of another 68 acres, which are irrigated by small privately owned tanks and wells and bring to the government a revenue of Rs. 745/12/0 per year. Wet land is very much desired by the cultivators because of its high productivity and requirement of com-
[436] paratively low investment. According to current valuation average wet land sells at Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,200 per acre.

241 433 It would only be natural to expect that in a primarily agricultural community the number of professional cultivators and others directly dependent upon agriculture should be the highest. Table I shows the number of people who are wholly agriculturists, partly agriculturists and partly field-labourers, and partly agri-

425 their separation by death or selling causes so much sorrow among the peasants.

423 435 Land is indeed the most precious and coveted possession of the village people. With the exception of women's ornaments, land and cattle are almost the only property they have. With the overall increase in general price levels in recent years, the price of land has also risen. The following table will give an idea of the average prices of different grades of land in 1939 and in 1950.

TABLE III

Prices of Land in 1939 and 1950

Type of land	*Price per acre in rupees*					
	1939 *Grades of land*			1950 *Grades of land*		
	A	B	C	A	B	C
1. Dry land	60	40	18	220	170	75
2. Wet land	250	150	90	1,200	800	480
3. Garden land	300	240	110	1,500	1,200	550

243 434 I propose to examine the standards of living, and relative earnings and expenditure of the different levels of the population in a subsequent chapter. But a consideration of the economics of agriculture will not be out of place here.

The two major crops grown by the people of Shamirpet are rice and millet. Table IV gives the averages per acre of gross income, total cost and net income, in the cultivation of millet, particularly *jawar*. Tables V and VI give similar figures for paddy, for single crop and double crop lands respectively. The figures have been worked out from a survey of a 50% sample of village families cultivating the three different categories of land. Figures are given to the nearest whole number.

TABLE IV

Average Cost and Yield per Acre in the Cultivation of Millet

Grade of land	*Gross income*	*Total expenditure*	*Net income*
A	Rs. 140	Rs. 64	Rs. 76
B	" 82	" 40	" 42
C	" 62	" 30	" 32

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361 489 station is Kalikiri, at a distance of 10 miles. The nearest commercial centres are Kandur and Kalikiri, where grain, tamarind and jaggery are sold in large quantities.

465 [804] *Economic condition.*—The customary rates of wages are—in money—men 3 annas per day; women 2 annas per day; in kind—three measures of paddy or ragi per day and a small quantity of food in the afternoon. The measure is half a Madras measure.* Or a man may be given two annas and a meal.

435 Current prices—

Rice	...	...	...	8 local measures for a rupee	
Ragi	...	...	...	10	" "
Sazzulu	...	...	...	10	" "
Cholam	...	...	...	9	" "
Tamarind		...	...	As. 2–6 per viss.*	
Jaggery	...	...	...	As. 6	"
Chillies	...	...	...	As. 8	"

426 The village debt is estimated at Rs. 2,000.

There have been no good rains for the past three or four years and consequently there have been successive failures of crops. The ryot has therefore been obliged to borrow money for buying bulls, and grain, and to enable him to pay his rent. For these reasons there is much indebtedness in the village.†

There are only two families who have liberated themselves to a small extent from debt once incurred.

[452] There is no Co-operative Credit Society.

435 Wet lands sell at Rs. 400 to Rs. 1,000 per acre, dry lands at Rs. 40 to Rs. 60. It is only recently that the prices have gone up. Formerly they were selling at a lower rate, the maximum rate being about Rs. 500 per acre. The rise in price is due to the fact that there are more ryots than land and demand is unsatisfied.

796 *Expenditure on religious festivals.*—At one annual festival, called Paleti Gangamma Jathara, about Rs. 60 or Rs. 70 are spent. Nothing has been spent on new temples in recent years and no advantage is taken of the Agricultural Loans Act.

164 [759] [743] *Sanitary condition.*—Neither malaria, cholera, plague nor small-pox are prevalent. For ordinary ailments people get themselves treated by two native doctors in Kandur, two others in Somala at a distance of 4 miles and one other there in the village itself. For more serious diseases people have recourse to the hospitals at Sodam at a distance of 12 miles, or at Vayalpad or Piler, at distances of about 20 miles.

562 Though there are two Muhammadan families they do not observe purdah.

364 Night-soil is not allowed to accumulate in the village, but the sullage water is allowed to sink into the ground in every house. In some houses there are cesspools where this collects, and pollutes the air around.

312 For drinking purposes water is got out of a well about half a furlong from the end of the village nearest to it. For other domestic purposes, only two houses, one Brahman and one Kapu, have wells in their backyards. All the others get water from the well above mentioned for all purposes. The water in the two wells mentioned is brackish.

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* It follows that one local measure of paddy weighs about 1¼ lb.; of rice, ragi, sazzulu or cholam about 1¾ lb. A viss in Madras is a little over 3 lb.—Ed.

† In 1917 there were good rains—vide under Gownipalle, Festivals.

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231 Horses are fed on grass and gram chiefly, sometimes also on oats and bran.

237 *Manuring.*—Nearly 90 per cent of the cow-dung is used as manure, the rest being used for household purposes.

Almost all the cattle urine is allowed to run to waste except trifling quantities used for household purposes.

241 The green manure chiefly used is the leaf of the Kanaga tree. Generally all kinds of green leaf are held to be good manure. This is obtained chiefly from the surrounding jungle, licences being obtained on payment of a fee to the Maharaja's Government. Sometimes topes are planted for the purpose.

No other kinds of vegetable manure are largely used. In some cases, for instance in the cultivation of sugarcane, the refuse left after the oil has been squeezed out from the fruit of the Kanaga tree is used.

232 Insect-pests and cattle diseases and the method of combating them are the same as in Thettupalli.[1]

361 *The village.*—The village occupies an area of 9·36 acres. The tendency is for the members of one caste to congregate together. For example all the Muhammadans live in one part of the village together. The Komatis live exclusively in one street.

342 The depressed classes live in dirty and squalid huts of but one room.

There are in the caste village 85 thatched houses, none tiled, 63 terraced; in the Paracheri, only thatched houses 31 in number. There are no gardens adjoining any of the dwellings. The fields lie adjoining and surrounding the village. The most distant field lies about three-quarters of a mile off.

There is a great demand for additional building sites.

435 If land is obtained direct from the Government a fee of ½ anna per square yard is charged, payable on sale. If dry land is acquired for the purpose from pattadars, the value ranges from Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 per acre. It is only near this village that the value is so low. Further up the value goes up to nearly Rs. 300 or Rs. 350.

463 *Subsidiary industries.*—There are only two pariahs who weave at all. They use two handlooms.

[281] No hand spinning is practised. Yarn is bought ready made. The other crafts are—

Crafts.	Average time.	Earnings per year.	Remarks.
Blacksmith.	The major part of the day.	About Rs. 300 a year.	He receives customary mamūls. At harvest time gets about 10 puttis of paddy. There are also inams in his name.
Potter ...	The major part of the day and almost throughout the year.	About Rs. 100 a year.	Do.
Carpenter ...	For the major part of the year.	About Rs. 150 a year.	No mamūls.

438 *Village trade—Purchase of commodities by the village.*—Wood for implements is got from the forests already mentioned. Iron

1 [See category 116, pp. 99-110.—Analyst]

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implements are bought chiefly in Chintamani, about 18 miles off, and also at Srinivasapur, about 14 miles off. 438

Articles of consumption are bought at the weekly fair held here on Tuesdays, also in Chintamani, Kothakota and some other places.

Sale of village produce.—The quantities produced here are: paddy 500 puttis,* ragi 200, † sugarcane to the value of about Rs. 1,500, other millets and pulses to the value of about Rs. 1,000. 433 [804]

Out of this whatever is required for household purposes is retained. The rest, more than 50 per cent, is sold away. The nearest market is Chintamani. Sometimes the grain is transported to Bangalore also.

There are about three local roads, one from Gownipalle to Addegal, a village 4 miles off, one from the village to Manchinillakota, a village 6 miles off, and the other up to Todigol, 6 miles off. Another short road running for three miles runs up to the Mysore frontier. On the other side is British territory and there is no road further up. The local road to Tadigol connects with the Bangalore-Cuddapah road. The nearest commercial centres are Chintamani and Bangalore, accessible by the said road. The nearest railway station is Srinivasapur, about 14 miles off, reached by road. 491 361 [498]

The fair that takes place here every week is a big affair. People from very different parts come here. The fair is nominally held on Tuesday, but it generally extends from Monday to Wednesday. The chief business is carried on in stock, especially sheep and goats. Business in these is carried on to the extent of Rs. 4,000. They are chiefly sent to the Kolar Goldfields for slaughter and consumption. 543 438

Economic condition of village.—The customary rates of wages, in money, are from 2 to 3 annas per day, for a man; and 1½ annas for a woman; in kind, 2 seers of ragi, or 3 seers of paddy to a man, 1½ seers of ragi or 2 seers of paddy to a woman. 465

The current prices of staple foods are— 435

Rice	...	..	...	8 Mysore seers for a rupee.
Ragi	...	...	...	28 " "
Sazzulu	...	...	...	20 " "
Cholam	...	...	...	14 " "
Tamarind	...	...	...	Re. 1 for a maund.
Jaggery	...	...	...	Rs. 2 "
Chillis	...	...	...	Rs. 4-8-0 "
Dhöll	...	...	...	8 seers for a rupee.

About four or five families have made savings to the extent of Rs. 5,000, but on the other hand others have contracted debts to the extent of Rs. 10,000. Owing to scarcity of rains and failure of crops the people have been obliged to borrow heavily to meet current and occasional expenses. 454 426

There are practically no families who have liberated themselves from debt. While paying off old scores they borrow in new places.

There is a co-operative credit society. The capital is subscribed in shares of Rs. 10 each payable in twenty monthly instalments. 453

* [Weight about 89 tons, value about Rs. 10,000.—Ed.]
† [Weight about 45 tons, value about Rs. 4,000.—Ed.]

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Money is lent at about 9½ per cent interest per annum. The registered capital is a little over a thousand rupees. There are forty-six members. There is a Secretary, a President, and a Treasurer, all honorary posts.

Dry land sells at from Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 per acre; wet land from Rs. 400 to Rs. 800. There has been a rise in prices owing to the increased demands for land and insufficient supply.

Under the Mysore Agricultural Loans Act loans nearly to the extent of Rs. 1,200 have been taken up at 4 per cent interest per annum from the Mysore Government.

Festivals.—A great festival is held at irregular intervals in honour of the goddess Gangamma, the tutelary goddess of the village and its fields and crops. There was a celebration in 1911, and another, prompted by a succession of bad seasons, in 1917. This last was celebrated from the 22nd to the 29th of April. The inhabitants of sixteen villages took part, every family making some contribution, and some 10,000 people congregated in Gownipalli. An image of the goddess is made of rice-flour, copying the silver image in Punganur. It shows only the neck and head, wearing a lofty head-dress. Before this image some 2,000 victims are sacrificed. The first sacrifice is that of a male buffalo; this takes place at midnight, and is followed by that of two or three goats. In the following morning 21 buffaloes are sacrificed. Throughout the festival there is great rejoicing and weird dancing at night, with *kolattam*, short sticks held in the hands and beaten together. Finally the goddess is carried in procession, with drums and cymbals, to the water and thrown in, and there she dissolves. This year there have been good crops and all the tanks are full. The animals sacrificed, in addition to male buffaloes and goats, are rams and cocks. The Brahmans take no part in this festival. The village officers make money out of it, the patel may get Rs. 30 or Rs. 40.

Sanitary condition.—Malaria is always prevalent. The water for drinking purposes is bad and the village is situated in a low marshy place. Two years ago the village suffered from cholera. There were about fifty deaths. It is free from plague. This year (1916) there was an attack of small-pox, with some deaths. In disease people get themselves treated by native doctors. The nearest hospital is at Srinivaspur, but no advantage is taken of it, as they regard it as most unsatisfactory.

All kinds of filth and dirt are allowed to accumulate in the courtyards of the houses. Cattle are housed there only and people sleep near these places. This is to a great extent minimized among the Brahmans.

No infant marriages are allowed in Mysore. The bride must be at least eight years old and the bridegroom sixteen years.

All Muhammadans observe purdah.

Water for drinking purposes is found in abundance. All the Brahmans drink water got out of wells in their backyards. Others drink out of a well about half a furlong from the village and out of the stream aforesaid. Almost all the water is fresh. But it has a tendency to bring on malaria.

Education.—There is one school, but the accommodation is insufficient. The classes, about seven in number, are held in two

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Sandy tracts with palmyras fetch a rent of Rs. 10 per acre, without trees, Rs. 2 or 3 only; black clay Rs. 15 to 16 per acre. 427

The black clay land sells at about Rs. 350 per acre, the red sand at about Rs. 150. But the price has fallen now owing to two bad harvests. 435

Stock. 231

	By official information.	Non-official.
Working oxen	539	800 about.
Cows	412	600 „
Male buffaloes	6	14 „
Cow buffaloes	184	200 „
Young stock—buffaloes	208	250 „
Do. cows	637	650 to 700
Horses	...	...
Donkeys and mules	...	...
Sheep	58	61
Goats	225	200
Pigs	100	...

According to the census of 1900 and 1910 they were—

	1900.	1910.
Bullocks and he-buffaloes	650	545
Cows	580	412
She-buffaloes	171	184
Young stock	802	845
Sheep and goats	778	283

The straw of cholam and paddy is reserved for the summer feed of cattle; in the rainy season the green grass of the common pasture is available. Each ryot reserves one or two fields for pasture for his cattle. In days of heavy work, the bullocks are given cooked horsegram mixed with the husk of paddy, and the fine dust from the grain which is mixed with it in husking. Cotton seeds are also cooked and given for food; and oil cake, especially for milch cows. Ryots who have insufficient pasture send some of their cattle to the Agency tracts for the three months, July to September; they are charged Rs. 3 or 5 per pair.

Only about 50 per cent of the cattle-dung is used as manure, the rest is used for fuel. The average ryot applies six to eight cart-loads of dung per acre; besides the manure of the cattle kept in fields at nights. He accumulates a stock at home throughout the year and applies it at the end of the year to the fields. 241 [231]

No green manure or chemical manure is used.

Garden cultivation has been tried as an experiment with water-supply from a well, lifted by a water pump got from Bombay. Lemons and plantains are planted. The pump required some slight repairs, which were delayed for want of a mechanic near by. The garden too has not yet proved to be decidedly profitable; and all the villagers laugh at it as an innovation. [176]

Cost of cultivation.—The following is an account of the expenditure for ten acres of an average ryot, obtained from four ryots. 241 435

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241 435 No exact accounts are possible, for the ryots do not keep any record of them.

Items.	Rs.	A.	P.
2 Bullocks, for keep... ... ... (The figures given by the four ryots were Rs. 75, 80, 90, 80; two cows also are maintained out of this.)	80	0	0
2 annual servants (Rs. 50 and Rs. 25 respectively)	75	0	0
1 plough, its necessary implements	2	0	0
" charges for making it	2	0	0
Seed for two crops	28	0	0
Coolies to weed two crops	40	0	0
Coolies to harvest it (some say even Rs. 20) ...	15	0	0
Government tax at Rs. 1-12-0 per acre	17	8	0
Rent, if the land is leased, at least	100	0	0
Perquisites at harvest time—			
to the head servant one bag	7	0	0
to the second servant half a bag	3	8	0
to the village barber three or four seers (at 8 seers per rupee)	0	8	0
to the washerman...	0	8	0
to the shoemaker, 16 or 20 seers	2	8	0
to three village servants, 2 seers each	0	12	0
To manure the fields in summer with rented flocks of sheep and goats, as is the custom, for eight or ten days at an acre a day; the tenant takes three-fourths of the milk on such days ...	35	0	0
Other agricultural implements (even higher) ...	5	0	0
Other repairs of the field, such as digging up the soil, etc.	5	0	0
Total expenses for ten acres ...	424	4	0

[132] During the last two years there were excessive rains; crops failed badly; there was double the expenditure for useless plants; the cultivators had to sow three times, so that the average expenditure for seed was trebled. Such extraordinary expenditures are frequent. But assuming the season is favourable the utmost that the cultivator can get is—

	Rs.	A.	P.
40 bags of paddy at Rs. 4½ per bag	170	0	0
20 bags of gingelly at Rs. 7½ per bag	150	0	0
30 bags of cholam at Rs. 6¼ per bag	187	8	0
20 bags of Bengal gram at Rs. 8-5-4 per bag ...	175	0	0
20 bags of red gram at Rs. 7½ per bag	150	0	0
Black gram	8	0	0
Total ...	840	8	0

The average crop is Rs. 560 or Rs. 600 per annum. The cultivator can moreover earn in summer 90 or 100 rupees by letting out his cart to convey jaggery.

361 The area of the village-site is 33 acres 32 cents. The dwellings of the depressed castes, about 125 in number, are crowded

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together on the northern and north-east sides of the village. On the northern side, but apart from the village, crowded together in irregular muddy streets of obnoxious smell are the houses of the washermen (70 houses) and the toddy-drawing class (150 in number). All are thatched with palmyra leaves. It is difficult to go into the midst of these huts because of the bad smell. 361 [342]

There are 271 houses in the caste village according to official information, actually 350; 125 in the paracheri.

The village is rather crowded and there is no space for gardens. There is much demand for building sites. There are extensions on the north and south sides into the fields. Some houses contain even two or three families crowded together. From Rs. 2 to 3 per square yard is paid for house-sites. Some of the cultivated land is distant 5½ miles from the home of the cultivator. A hereditary disposition to hate changes, as well as party feelings, and suspicions of inequalities, prevent the ryots from exchanging to get their land continuous. Field huts are used, but mostly for the working seasons only, and are not permanent. [578]

Subsidiary industries.—At the time of the 1891 census there were 69 weavers; in 1901, 17; in 1911, 12; now there are only three. Foreign yarn of 10, 20 and 40 Nos. is purchased from fairs held at Nidadavolu, four miles off. The cloth woven is a very rough sort, used by the very poor classes; 75 per cent of the people prefer and use foreign goods. The implements are of the ordinary country type and of primitive nature. There is no co-operation among the weavers. They are unable to face the mill competition. As they find little demand for their goods, they are frequently forced to go away as agricultural labourers, and practise weaving only as a hobby for leisure hours. A weaver with five sons, as a rule, sends four of them to agricultural work and only one to his own industry. Till 10 years back 95 per cent of the population used to wear the village cloth. Now 75 per cent prefer and use foreign clothing. Two weaving families recently went to Rajahmundry as factory coolies. Ten years ago, many women of low castes used to practise handspinning. A little cotton was grown in the village up to 1912, but latterly it was sold for higher prices than the spinners could pay. 286

Economic condition of the village—Rates of wages.—Labourers are employed for the day or for the year. In the latter case Rs. 25 per annum is paid to boys and Rs. 50 per annum to men. For daily labourers the wage is three to four annas to men; 1½ to 2 annas to women; 1 to 1¼ annas to children; this may be paid in grain or money, or half in money and half in grain. The only perquisites are at harvest time. Thus for each crop, the yearly labourer receives 8 or 12 seers; on the whole 1 bag nearly. In festivals, they are given only meals and nothing more. 465

Current prices— 435

	Rs.	A.	P.
Paddy per bag of 166 lb.	5	8	0
Cholam "	9	1	6
Gingelly "	12	8	0
Red gram "	8	6	0
Kambu "	9	6	0
Soap nuts "	7	8	0
Ghee, per tin	18	0	0